

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 IO-14 AID-20 OMB-01 EUR-25

DRC-01 /139 W

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FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3645

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 2162

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, US

SUBJ: NEW OAU SECRETARY GENERAL

REFS: A. ADDIS ABABA 7381

B. STATE 135027

1. NEWLY ELECTED OAU SEC GEN ETEKI RETURNED YAOUNDE EVENING JUNE 28 FROM PARIS. HIS WIFE ORGANIZED A RELIGIOUS SERVICE JUNE 29 FOLLOWED BY A SMALL RECEPTION AT THEIR HOME TO WHICH I WAS INVITED. I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT PRESENT SECRETARY'S LETTER JULY 2 AT 10 AM (REF. B).

2. ETEKI CONFIRMED TO ME THAT HIS MANDATE IS FOR FOUR YEARS (REF. A). HE IS NOW IN PROCESS PLANNING VISIT TO SELECTED AFRICAN CAPITALS TO GET VIEWS OF CHIEFS OF STATE ON HIS ROLE AS SEC GEN. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT CHOICE OF COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED POSES PROBLEM BUT THAT HE TRYING TO DEVELOP FORMULA THAT WILL HAVE SOME LOGIC TO IT. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER DISQUIETING NEWS FROM ADDIS AND WONDERED IF PERHAPS ONE OF HIS FIRST JOBS WOULD NOT HAVE TO BE TO MOVE THE OAU STAFF TO ANOTHER CAPITAL. HE DID NOT THINK SUCH A DEVELOPMENT WOULD TAKE PLACE SO LONG AS EMPEROR REMAINED ON THRONE. HE EXPRES-
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SED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN ANY NEWS THAT WE MIGHT HAVE ON

REAL SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA.

3. ALL CAMEROONIANS WITH WHOM WE HAVE TALKED, FROM HIGHEST TO LOWEST STATION, TAKE VERY OBVIOUS SATISFACTION TO ETEKI'S ELECTION. THEY FELT UNCOMFORTABLE OVER EKANGAKI'S PERFORMANCE AND CONSIDER THAT CAMEROON'S PRESTIGE HAS BEEN MORE THAN REFURBISHED BY ETEKI'S ELECTION FOR A FULL 4 YEAR TERM. ABOVE ALL THEY VIEW THIS DEVELOPMENT AS A PERSONAL TRIUMPH FOR PRESIDENT AHIDJO.

4. IF DEPARTMENT OR ADDIS IN POSITION PROVIDE UP-TO-DATE READING ON SITUATION IN ADDIS IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IF I COULD PASS IT ON TO ETEKI WHEN I SEE HIM JULY 2. AN IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM SENT BY COB JULY 1 SHOULD MEET THAT DEADLINE.

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